

From: Richard Motofuji
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/18/02 2:13am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hi,

I, for one, would like to see Microsoft heavily punished for their anti-competitive tactics. They have used unethical tactics and have leveraged their market dominance to pressure other companies, both partners and competitors, into furthering their monopolistic strength.

I believe the computing world would have been a better place if Microsoft had not crushed various competing platforms. Here are some of the most glaring examples:

1. Netscape would probably have thrived as an alternative web-based computing platform, had Microsoft not tied Internet Explorer to Windows.
Instead, Netscape lost market share and momentum.

2. IBM's OS/2 operating system was technically superior to any of Microsoft's OS products. Regrettably, IBM was pressured into stopping the development and shipment of OS/2 by Microsoft.

In addition, although it may not affect the judgement of a truly objective court, it is clear that Microsoft has not been forthcoming when producing testimony or evidence in court:

3. Bill Gates' testimony consisted of obvious stalling tactics, clear hostility toward the prosecuting attorneys, and far too many claimed memory lapses. It is clear to me that he was hiding facts and attempting to avoid answering embarrassing questions.

4. Microsoft produced falsified evidence in the form of a videotape purporting to show that it was impossible to extract Internet Explorer from Windows 98.

So, although Microsoft has mounted a public relations campaign to plead its case, we are left with a monopoly that not only controls the vast majority of the business and home computing market. Microsoft is now attempting to enter into the home video console market and has recently purchased the

most of the intellectual property of SGI (formerly Silicon Graphics.)

Microsoft has also attempted to co-opt the Java programming language, and others, by creating their own variants that will only interoperate with the Windows OS. The sheer market share of Windows could cause Java to lose its cross-platform interoperability to become yet another proprietary Microsoft API.

I believe that with alternative platforms such as Netscape and OS/2, the computing world would have been a better place. Microsoft would have had to compete on the ease-of-use, security, and reliability fronts. Now, with no major competitors, we are left with Microsoft products that are difficult to use, have an enormous number of security vulnerabilities, and are crash-prone.

To me, it is clear that Microsoft has broken anti-trust laws. It is also clear that they have not fully cooperated with the Department of Justice. And it is clear that their tactics have not changed at all since the period under scrutiny in the Department of Justice anti-trust trial.

Microsoft must be punished harshly for their actions, and they must not be allowed to act so arrogantly ever again. I think that a separation of the Windows and application program groups would be appropriate. A physical separation of the two groups, to different states, would also be necessary.

Thank you,

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